

1AP20 Rec'd FCT/PTO 10 MAR 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

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Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 and cited in the International Search Report (copy attached). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents.

1. Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 2003-84064 is discussed beginning at page 1 of the specification. Further, an English Abstract of JP 2003-84064 is attached.

2. Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 07-125567 is discussed beginning at page 1 of the specification. Further, an English Abstract of JP 07-125567 is attached.

3. German Patent Publication No. DE 101 33 945 corresponds to U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0021201. Further, a statement of relevance of German Patent Publication DE 101 33 945 is provided in the Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority (copy attached).

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the Patent and Trademark Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

10/571427

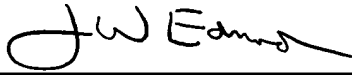
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If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 10, 2006

By: 
James W. Edmondson
Reg. No. 33,871

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Complete if Known

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Application Number Not Assigned 10/571427	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Filing Date March 10, 2006	
				First Named Inventor Kyoichi ABE et al.	
				Art Unit Not Assigned	
				Examiner Name Not Assigned	
				Attorney Docket Number 07057.0117	
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-2001/0031068 A1	10/18/01	Ohta et al.	
		US-6,429,935	12/10/02	Higuchi	
		US-2005/0021201 A1	01/27/05	Klotz et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
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Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2003-84064	03/19/03	Yamada		Abstract
		JP 07-125567	05/16/95	Watanabe		Abstract
		DE 101 33 945 A1	02/06/03	Klotz		No

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		International Search Report	
		Written Opinion	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.